

THE INTELLIGENCER.

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THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, FEBRUARY 13, 1900.

Meeting of the State League of Republican Clubs.

To the Republicans of West Virginia.

The time has come for aggressive action on the part of all adherents of our great party, which is now, as ever, the party of vital and positive principle. The year, as heretofore, Republicanism means patriotism. It therefore behooves the friends of good government everywhere to use all honorable means to perpetuate Republican principles by bringing about the election by overwhelming majorities of the Republican national, state and local nominees in the pending campaign. Such effort should not cease until victory is won.

In view of the great influence for good wielded by club organizations in distributing political literature and arousing enthusiasm upon the live questions of the day, a meeting of the West Virginia State League of Republican Clubs is hereby called for

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1900.

to be held in the city of Parkersburg, W. Va., for the purpose of reorganization, consideration of plans of work for the year's campaign, election of delegates to the National League meeting, and for such other business as may properly come before it. Each club is entitled to send one delegate, and it should also elect five alternates. Republicans in every county are urged to organize clubs at once, and send the name of each club, with lists of officers and delegates, without delay, to the secretary at Charleston.

Speakers of national reputation will be present to address the meeting.
By order of the Executive Committee,
WM. BURDETTE MATTHEWS,
First Vice President,
D. E. HUGHES, Secretary.

A Bad Case of Rabies.

The Register had a bad case of double leaded rabies yesterday, which wound up with a black type spasm over what it professes to believe was an attack on its integrity by the Intelligencer. The Register of late has been reckless in charging acts to the friends of the refunding ordinance which were wholly untrue. It has wantonly impugned the motives of the advocates of that measure. It has also by implication and direct assertion questioned the honesty of every one connected with the inception of the ordinance. Its course has impressed the public at large as being without rhyme or reason, and being so free in its baseless charges the Intelligencer was moved to make the following observations, to which it objects:

We do not undertake to supply the motive which prompts the Register's vicious attacks, or to correct its inconsistencies, which are only too apparent, but we do undertake to say that when it gives utterance to the following "The Register" machine and the regiment of paid heelers besides, are working like beavers for the refunding ordinance. It behooves citizens and taxpayers generally to protect themselves—which it did yesterday—it lies without qualification or excuse. On the contrary, if there is any unusual activity with regard to this ordinance it is being generated by the opposition to the measure, and if any money is being used the Register, or the writer who is allowed to roam over its editorial columns every day with a seal worthy of a better cause, is basking in the enjoyment of its distribution.

We trust this is plain enough.

It will be observed that it was the Register that made the first suggestion as to the use of money with reference to the refunding ordinance. There certainly are no "heelers" employed to exploit the beauties of the ordinance, but the incessant outcry the Register has made in the matter and its unusual activity in opposing the ordinance has caused some comment as to its animus, and its course is still a matter of wonderment.

Considering itself accused of what it so vehemently accuses others, it makes the following bluff:

The Register hereby offers to give \$1,000 to any charitable institution that may be selected by the Intelligencer, will produce a lot of substantial evidence on which it based this vile insinuation against the Register, providing that the Intelligencer will forfeit the same amount to be donated to the same purpose if it fails to make its word good in this respect.

The Intelligencer never said that the Register was paid. Neither did it say that any money was being used; it was the Register that made these false charges against the friends of the ordinance, and the Intelligencer suggested that if any money was about that the Register's course laid it open to suspicion. That paper must understand that it cannot recklessly impugn the honesty and integrity of others without treating the impression that it is judging others by its own standard of morals.

An Interesting Report.

The statistician of the agricultural department has just finished a very interesting report of the farm animals of the country. While there has been a decline in the number of horses and mules there has been a marked improvement in other classes and a striking increase in values. The very palpable reason for the decline in the number of horses and mules is the growing use of electricity as a motive power and the consequent decline in the value of certain classes of draft animals. The general increase in the business prosperity of the country has, however, pulled up the average of horses within a year from \$37.40 at the beginning of

1899 to \$44.61 at the beginning of the present year, resulting in an advance in the total value from \$51,974,813 to \$60,500,442.

Returns were received by the department from more than 50,000 correspondents throughout the country, and the figures obtained have been carefully compared with those of previous years. These returns show that on January 1, of this year there were on the farms of the United States 12,537,634 horses, 2,084,027 mules, 18,292,860 milch cows, 27,610,054 other cattle and 61,883,965 sheep. This is an increase of 127,783 in the number of horses, 48,186 in that of mules and 344,171 in that of cattle other than milch cows. On the other hand it is an increase of 302,245 in the number of milch cows, and of 2,768,512 in that of sheep. The department has made no estimate of the number of swine, but will await the enumeration to be made by the United States census in June next. There has been an increase in value during the year averaging \$7.21 per head in the case of horses, \$8.60 per head for mules, \$1.94 per head for milch cows, \$2.18 per head for other cattle and 18 cents per head for sheep. This represents a total increase in value during the year of nearly \$218,000,000, exclusive of a manifestly considerable but not definitely ascertained increase in the value of swine. The total increase in the value of farm animals of the United States during the last three years exceeds \$670,000,000. Farm horses have increased in value \$151,000,000, mules \$19,000,000, milch cows \$146,000,000, other cattle \$181,000,000, sheep \$56,000,000 and swine about \$20,000,000.

West Virginia is reported to have had on January 1, 150,329 horses, and the average price per head was \$43.21. The highest average price per head is reported from Rhode Island, \$48.57, and the lowest, \$16.41, from Nevada. The total value of horses in West Virginia was \$6,465,231. The state is given credit for possessing 167,173 milch cows, valued at \$4,747,713, and other cattle to the number of \$41,025, valued at \$6,061,482.

The Business Situation.

The financial situation of the country is now in a very satisfactory state. The most important development of the week was the crystallization of the gold standard into law. This, however, had no appreciable effect on the stock market or financial centers, as such action was anticipated. Henry Clews in his weekly letter reviewing affairs on Wall street remarks "that ever since the defeat of silverism prices have been gradually rising largely in consequence of that event; so not much additional stimulus can be found in the mere formality of putting into legislative form a decision reached nearly four years ago. Nevertheless, it is an important step gained; and there will now be no backward movement towards silverism, the opposition to which has been finally crystallized into law."

General conditions affecting the market continue favorable. The railroad situation is eminently satisfactory. According to the Chronicle 19 roads reported earnings of \$50,700,000 in January; which, considering the gains of previous years, was remarkable. The even distribution of these gains proved the improvement in business to be general and not local. The south is now sharing in this improvement more largely, the advance in cotton being a great boon to that section. It is calculated that if the present crop did not exceed 9,000,000 bales and the average price in southern markets was only 7c, it would net the south \$40,000,000 more than last year's crop. The south is also profiting from the phenomenal development in the cotton industry; not only securing a larger profit for growing cotton, but an entirely new profit from manufacturing the staple, besides finding additional employment for a large population. The revolution now going quietly on in the south can only be appreciated by those who have gone over the ground and made comparison with a decade ago.

The Refunding Ordinance.

The Intelligencer calls the attention of its readers to the very able exposition of the refunding ordinance by Senator Whitaker, in another column of this issue, and commends his remarks to their thoughtful attention. It is a plain statement of the case from a business standpoint, and contains some convincing reasons why the ordinance should be adopted. Its rejection would be a blunder.

The ordinance is no hasty pudding affair. It received the studious attention of the committee the better part of the past year, and it was not presented to council until the interests of the city and the taxpayers were thoroughly safeguarded. It is not a political measure in any sense. To relieve it of the least possible political significance a special committee was selected by council consisting of three Democrats and three Republicans, namely Mayor A. T. Sweeney, John Waterhouse, A. Korn, and James P. Maxwell, A. E. Marshner, M. A. Chew. After these thoroughly competent gentlemen had framed the ordinance to make sure that they were proceeding in a legal manner they obtained the written opinions of two eminent lawyers, who gave it the stamp of their approval. Furthermore, when the measure was submitted to council, it received the unanimous vote of both branches at a meeting attended by a larger number of members than was usual, and it is submitted to the people as a non-partisan business proposition.

The refunding features of the ordinance are measures that would be adopted by any business man placed in the same position the city finds itself. The debt will be placed at a much lower rate of interest, and the bonds will undoubtedly bring a handsome premium. Obligations of the city amounting to \$82,000, known as the compromise loan, are due in July, and there is no money to discharge the debt. It must be paid. If not through the measures provided for the refunding ordinance, then it must be met by taxation. It also provides for the payment of the electric light loan, \$16,000, which was too small an amount to be refunded. Eight thousand dollars of this amount will be paid next year, and the remainder in 1902. The second series of the Main street bridge loan, \$69,000, cannot be refunded, as they are serial bonds, but they will be paid as they fall due. The ordinance also gives the city an opportunity to

furnish incandescent electric light, which will remove part of the burden now imposed on taxpayers for lighting the streets, and furthermore give consumers of illuminating gas a much cheaper rate. For the purpose of paying the debt of the city as refunded as its bonds fall due a sinking fund of \$15,000 a year is provided for, the ordinance making it imperative that such sum shall be set aside. For ten years under a 34-year loan no bonds can be redeemed, but at the end of that period the city will have \$150,000 to pay off that amount of its indebtedness, and every year thereafter \$15,000 must be set aside to redeem the bonds as they fall due.

The city is in sore need of improvements. The board of public works has all it can do to keep the streets clean, and the ten cent levy cannot be applied to improved streets. The payments need repairing, and other property of the city requires renovating. If these things are allowed to progress to great decay and dilapidation their renewal and repair will be all the more costly with the flight of time. The ordinance appeals to the wisdom and common sense of the people. It is a pure business proposition, and all opposition to it is based on theories that are entirely irrelevant and citations of contingencies that are wholly visionary. The Intelligencer is confident that the good sense of the voters will direct them to vote right on this measure on the 24th inst., and it believes that it will be approved by an overwhelming majority.

A Flattering Endorsement.

The candidacy of Hon. John M. Cook, of Staebenville, for the Republican nomination for judge of the Seventh judicial circuit of Ohio, has met with the most flattering endorsement from his brother lawyers of Jefferson county. At a meeting of the Bar Association of that county on Saturday last, in which many Democrats participated, resolutions were passed commending his candidacy to the lawyers and others interested in the fourteen counties constituting the judicial circuit.

The Intelligencer having a neighborly interest in the affairs of the eastern border counties of Ohio, besides entertaining a high regard for Mr. Cook's abilities, takes pleasure in adding its endorsement to the deserved testimonial of the Jefferson county bar. Mr. Cook is recognized as a fair man, possessing a broad mind, capable of weighing evidence and taking an impartial view of every matter brought before him.

He is in the prime of a vigorous manhood, possessing the natural conservatism which comes with years of work and study, and is yet far from that point in a man's life where he becomes careless of future progress. He has plenty of life-giving energy to make him a forceful character on the bench for years to come, and the active brain power to grasp and analyze the most complicated cases which can ever come before him.

Mrs. Nettie Craven is no mean claimant to a share of the late Senator Fair's millions. She has testified in her suit against the estate that she was not only married once, but twice to Senator Fair. Dead men tell no tales, but that doesn't prevent the living from telling tales about them.

SENATOR WHITAKER

Gives Some Sound Reasons Why the Refunding Ordinance Should be Passed—Its Defeat Would be a Grave Blunder.

Wheeling Sunday News: With remarkable unanimity of opinion the business men of Wheeling are arrayed with the supporters of the refunding ordinance. No financial measure has ever been brought to the attention of the citizens in which the solid men of the town have evinced so much interest, and which they are so heartily avocating. Regardless of politics, men who have knowledge of finance endorse the scheme, and will go to the polls next Saturday and vote for it.

Among the citizens who support the refunding ordinance, and whose opinions are always given great consideration by the voters, is Senator Nelson E. Whitaker. Mr. Whitaker is given to looking at municipal problems from a business standpoint, and being president of one of the greatest industrial concerns in the Ohio Valley, his views on municipal finance are of undoubted soundness and influence, and are entitled to serious thought by all who are going to vote on the proposition.

Mr. Whitaker was interviewed by a News reporter yesterday afternoon, and consented to give his opinion of the ordinance for publication. He was approached by the News several days ago for an interview, but refused to make a statement until he had thoroughly studied the ordinance. Since then he has looked over it very carefully, and yesterday, in reply to questions, said:

"If the proposition of refunding involved the question of increase in the city debt, there would be substantial grounds for opposition, but, on the contrary, it is simply an extension at a lower rate of interest, thus affording reduction of the burdens already incurred. It is difficult, practically impossible, to conceive how any fair-minded, intelligent citizen can find good reason for not supporting the very commendable proposition to be voted on the 24th instant; as a plain, sensible, business matter there can be no valid objection. The obligations now imposed upon the people cannot be evaded. They must be met and provided for; if at once, or at an early period, provision must be made, and if the resources are not at hand, (and it is evident they are not), then the self-denial and self-exaction must be required to be obtained; and how can this be done, except by economy reluctantly enforced, the withholding of ordinary and necessary expenditures or by increased tax rates with consequent general public dissatisfaction. If the refunding proposition is not accepted, if, on the other hand, the interest rate can be reduced, is it not an emphatic economy, imposing no hardship, but resulting in a material and substantial saving and benefit? This is why I believe in the refunding of the city debt."

"The placing of a more remote maturity at the lower rate of interest in the manner proposed commends itself most highly, involves no increase of tax rates, gives immediate and permanent relief to the present stringency of city finances, enables the procuring by fair and equitable means of the incandescent light system of the city, the green and improvement of our present miserable streets and public highways and in many other ways provides for direct and indirect benefits to our citizens. That there can

Bank Statement.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE BANK OF WHEELING, at Wheeling, in the State of West Virginia, at the close of business February 12, 1900.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$ 239,255.58
Overdrafts secured and unsecured	290.15
U. S. bonds to secure circulation	100,000.00
U. S. bonds to secure U. S. deposits	150,000.00
U. S. bonds on hand	2,100.00
Premiums on U. S. bonds	15,254.00
Stocks, securities, etc.	27,200.00
Banking-house, furniture and fixtures	110,000.00
Due from national banks (not reserve agents)	211,690.21
Checks and other cash items	51,375.08
Due from approved reserve agents	262,004.25
Checks and other cash items	8,523.87
Notes of other national banks	12,390.10
Fractional paper currency, notes and cents	256.57
Lawful money reserve in bank, viz:	
Specie	\$28,113.85
Legal-tender notes (6416 00)	238,529.85
Reserve fund (5 per cent of circulation)	4,500.00
Total	\$2,111,539.77

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 200,000.00
Surplus funds	25,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	7,547.96
National bank notes outstanding	89,000.00
Due to other national banks	183,775.04
Due to state banks and bankers	290,721.70
Dividends unpaid	21.00
Individual deposits subject to check	912,118.85
Demand certificates of deposit	1,441.91
Time certificates of deposit	229,075.79
Certified checks	850.00
United States deposits	142,500.00
Total	\$2,111,539.77

State of West Virginia, County of Ohio, ss: I, W. B. IRVINE, assistant cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of February, 1900.

GUY ALLEN WAGNER, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest: JOHN WATERHOUSE, JOHN L. DICKEY, W. H. FRANK, Directors.

be politics in the proposition is simply absurd. There should be none where general public welfare is involved and concerned; and the insinuation is flatly contradicted by the facts. Every good citizen should support the measure, and see that his friend and neighbor supports it. The proposition is most commendable in every way and for every reason, unless as it may effect those now holding evidences of city debt at higher interest rates.

"We have evidences every month of the successful funding of debt in business enterprises. Every month railroads and big industrial corporations find themselves in a situation which may be compared to Wheeling's plight, and easily extricate themselves from their difficulty by refunding their debt. Where would the Baltimore & Ohio railroad have been to-day if its finances had not been handled in this way, and the company enabled to extend the maturity of its indebtedness, by making new loans at more favorable rates? Take any ordinary business concern or partnership which finds its debts maturing too rapidly. It may be doing a profitable business and have good sources of income which may be absorbed by rapidly maturing obligations to such an extent that the concern has no money to maintain its plant in good working order and make necessary repairs. By devoting its receipts to paying off the indebtedness to the exclusion of current operating expenses, the physical condition of the plant becomes impaired, and its money-making qualities are thereby materially reduced. Do you not suppose a concern in this situation, if it had sound business men at its head, would seize an opportunity to make new loans at lower rates of interest if the transaction would result in its being able to pay off its matured indebtedness without increasing liabilities and by gaining time to be able to maintain its plant and prepare for the future? This is being done constantly in the business world, and the city could do just as easily."

"As I said before, I cannot see how any business man can oppose this ordinance. It seems to me that the chief opposition comes from those who were interested in the recent electric light deal, and must protect the interests of their clients. This is just and proper on their part, but I do not think the public should allow its interests to go by default for the benefit of any small coterie of gentlemen.

"So far as I have seen, the men who are most enthusiastic in advocating the refunding proposition are business men, who take little interest in politics, and are in no sense politicians. I am glad to see the News support the ordinance, and I believe it is adopting the right methods in its fight, and is striking many body blows against the opposition. Every man who pays taxes and every man who has his wagons and other vehicles jerked over the rough streets should vote for the ordinance. If it is defeated, it will be the greatest mistake that Wheeling ever made; but I cannot see how it can be beaten."

One Objection.

Parkersburg State Journal: In another column the Weston Independent gives Judge Henry Brannon, of the supreme court, a pretty clean bill of health from a Republican standpoint. There is no question of Judge Brannon's ability and clear-headedness, and if the Republican state convention is willing to follow the suggestion of the Independent the Intelligencer will be in hearty accord with that decision—Wheeling Intelligencer.

Judge Brannon is a splendid official, and there is only one reason he should not be nominated by the Republicans. It would be rather hard on the thousand able Republican attorneys of this state, who have worked for their party all their lives, and some of whom no doubt would be pleased to have a place on the bench of the supreme court, to say there is none of them who can have this office.

How's This? We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last fifteen years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligation made by him.

WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Drugists, Toledo, O. WALKING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Drugists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

FAMILY WASHING.

Rough Dry Washed, Starched and Dried 5 cents per pound. Flat Work, Washed and Ironed, 5 cents per pound. All hand work finished 10 cents per pound. AT LUTZ BROS. Home Steam Laundry.

H. F. BEHRENS CO.

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By American Line to Southampton. American Line to Liverpool.

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Anchor Line to Glasgow. Cunard Line to Liverpool.

White Star Line to Queenstown and Liverpool.

Red Star Line to Antwerp. Holland-American Line to Rotterdam and Amsterdam.

French Line to Havre (Paris). North German Lloyd Line Baltimore to Bremen.

Mediterranean Line to Gibraltar, Naples and Genoa.

ALSO.....

Clark's Tours to Paris and Europe.

If you contemplate going abroad this season we would point out the necessity of an early decision, when and where to go, as the steamers, particularly those by the Mediterranean route, are rapidly filling. An early application is therefore necessary.

H. F. BEHRENS CO.,

Steamship Agents and Grocers,

2217 Market Street.

J. S. RHODES & CO.

Ladies' Muslin Underwear.

Large Assortments.

Latest Styles.

All new goods at special low prices for this sale.

Soiled Underwear—broken lots at half price and less.

Ladies Gray Skirts, All Wool Cheviots and Camel's Hair, new styles, at

\$4.98.

\$7.00 Value.

J. S. RHODES & CO.

AMUSEMENTS.

OPERA HOUSE

One Night Only, Monday, Feb. 19.

THE REAL BIG EVENT.

"Ring Up, Quick, She's Coming!"

More Real Fun Than in a Half Dozen Ordinary Performances.

THE TELEPHONE GIRL.

Hurricane Hits! Breezy Dialogue! Dazzling Dancing! Superb Music! Gorgeous Stage Setting!

Prices—50c, 75c and \$1.00. Reserved seat sale opens Saturday morning at the Opera House box office.

Loan Exhibition.

ALL STREET CARS PASS THE DOORS.

Hawley Building, Main and Tenth Sts.

Monday, February 19, to Saturday, February 24.

BENEFIT OF CITY HOSPITAL.

Prices Admission—Loan proper, 50c; Art Gallery proper, 50c; Lunch, daily from 12 to 3 p. m., Tenth street entrance, 50c; Supper, daily from 5 to 8 p. m., Tenth street entrance, 50c. Checks to patrons of Loan for entrance to and from dining rooms.

OPERA HOUSE

Tuesday and Wednesday, February 20 and 21.

JOHN W. VOGEL and ARTHUR DEMING'S

BIG MINSTRELS.

MASSIVE, SUPERS, COMPLETE.

30,000 Spectacular First Part. 10 American and European Novelties. SPECTACULAR STREET PAGEANT AT NOON.

Seats on sale Monday morning. Prices 25c, 50c and 75c. No higher.

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Thursday and Friday, Feb. 22 and 23.

The Big Musical Comedy.

Hello, Bill!

A pulsating parcel of hilarious happenings in three acts.

A splendid company of twenty comedians. ALL STAR CAST.

Headed by George Ober, Frederick Power, Louise Royce, Ada Deaves.

Prices—25, 50 and 75 cents. Reserved seat sale opens at box office Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

OPERA HOUSE

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 19, 20, 21. Matinee Wednesday. Bartlett & May in

WOMAN IN THE CASE.

Enough laughs in every performance to make a skeleton fat. A convulsive carnival of uproarious surprises. Night prices 15c, 25c and 50c. Matinee prices 10c, 25c and 50c.

OPERA HOUSE

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 22, 23, 24. Matinee Saturday.

Joseph Arthur's Famous Hoosier Pastoral Comedy Drama.

BLUE JEANS

A thoroughly complete and perfect production. A strictly first-class company. Night prices—15, 25 and 50 cents. Matinee prices—10, 25 and 50 cents.

OPERA HOUSE

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 22, 23, 24. Matinee Saturday.

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BLUE JEANS